

Remarks

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Withdrawal of claim 14-18

Applicants acknowledge the withdrawal from consideration by the Examiner of Claims 14-18. Applicants respectfully retain the right to pursue allowance of Claims 14-18 at a later time by means of a divisional application.

The Section 102 (b) Rejections of Claims 1-4

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as anticipated by United States Patent No. 599,706 to Heineken (the Heineken patent). Applicants have amended independent Claim 1 to more particularly define the invention claimed in Claim 1.

Applicants have amended independent Claim 1 to claim a means of moving a sink fixture horizontally in which the horizontal moving means is operatively arranged to maintain a constant distance between the sink fixture and the wall. As can be seen in Figures 1-3 of the instant application, the sink fixture is moved along a wall by means of at least one track that is secured to a wall. As can be seen from the Figures, the sink fixture is maintained at a constant distance from the wall as it moves on the tracks. This is also described in paragraph 0081 of the instant application.

In contrast, the Heineken patent discloses horizontal movement of a sink through an arc in a horizontal plane. As can be seen in Figures 1-3 of the Heineken patent, the sink is secured to a wall through attachment to a round vertically positioned wall rod. A bracket is secured to the round rod that allows the sink to be swung in an arc in a horizontal plane. Therefore, if the sink in the Heineken patent is moved horizontally, it will move either closer to or farther from the wall. Applicants respectfully submit that because the horizontal movement means disclosed in the Heineken patent does not maintain constant distance between the sink and the wall, the Heineken patent fails as a reference under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b). Applicants courteously request reconsideration.

Claims 2-4 depend from amended independent Claim 1 and therefore incorporate all the limitations of amended independent Claim 1. Because, as seen in the remarks above, the Heineken patent fails as a reference under § 102 (b) to anticipate amended

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independent Claim 1, the Heineken patent also fails to anticipate Claims 2-4 under § 102 (b). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

New Claim 29

Applicants have added new Claim 29 to more particularly claim a movable sink fixture secured and having means to move vertically with respect to a wall and means to move horizontally along a wall as well as a means to secure the sink fixture. Along is defined as a preposition meaning "in a line parallel with the length or direction of". (See Merriam-Webster Dictionary web site www.m-w.com/cgi-bin/dictionary.) Because the Heineken patent does not disclose a device to move a sink fixture along the length or direction of a wall, the Heineken patent fails to anticipate new Claim 29. Applicants respectfully request the passage to allowance of independent Claim 29.

Conclusion

It is sincerely urged that the present application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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